



State of Louisiana

Department of Environmental Quality



Kathleen Babineaux Blanco
Governor

Mike D. McDaniel, Ph.D.
Secretary

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ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

CABINET HEADS VISIT LAFAYETTE AND LAKE CHARLES

BATON ROUGE - Secretaries from three state agencies will make stops in Lafayette and Lake Charles on Tuesday, March 30, to discuss the goals of each agency for the next few years.

Department of Natural Resources Secretary Scott Angelle, DWF Secretary Dwight Landreneau and DEQ Secretary Dr. Mike McDaniel are scheduled to tour the National Wetlands Research Center in Lafayette at 1 p.m. on Tuesday. Later, the three will travel to Lake Charles where they will meet and address Mayor Randy Roach, members of the Downtown Development District, the Lake Area Industry Alliance and other interested groups.

"The state agencies are all working together for a more efficient government and to promote the state's resources to businesses inside Louisiana and throughout the nation," McDaniel said. "Louisiana is a great state to do business in and, from an environmental standpoint, we are setting the standards in many areas of environmental concern."

Collaboration between all state agencies has been an important topic for Governor Kathleen Babineaux Blanco, and McDaniel said he plans to work closely with DNR and DWF on many topics. McDaniel said by working together, "state agencies can become more efficient, especially when it comes to overlapping jurisdiction."

Dr. Robert Stewart, director of the National Wetlands Research Center, will give the tour of the facility. The research center works with each agency on different projects, and this tour provides the secretaries an opportunity to see some of the advances that are being made. Following the tour, a brief press conference will be held so that each secretary can address the media and expound on their respective department's goals.

The Lake Charles meeting will be held in the Contraband Room of the Lake Charles Civic Center at 3 p.m. It will focus on how the agencies can work with local communities to help bolster the state's economy.

Landreneau echoed McDaniel's thoughts concerning the speaking engagements: "As Governor Kathleen Blanco has said, this administration marks a new beginning for Louisiana and a new way of doing business."